CITY PROPOSAL – DISABILITY LEAVE

Proposed CEO Language:

- 18.1.2.1 Accrued sick leave may also be utilized for job-related illness or injury in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 Disability Leave, or if the employee is medically required to be absent from work between the date an examining physician determines the employee's condition to be "permanent and stationary" and the date the employee is so notified. Such accrued sick leave may not be utilized if the employee is otherwise entitled to temporary disability leave compensation for the above-referenced period of time. Accrued sick leave not to exceed three (3) working days may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Human Resources or designated representative, following the notification referred to above. Telephone notice or a notice mailed to the employee's last known address of record shall be determined notice to the employee.
- 18.1.2.2 Accrued sick leave not to exceed three (3) working days may be granted in circumstances where an alleged job-related illness or injury is involved, but the employee fails to provide medical verification of such job-related illness or injury.
- 18.1.2.3 Anything in this Article to the contrary notwithstanding, an employee who, pursuant to the provisions of Article 19 of this Agreement, has been receiving temporary disability leave compensation and who has received the maximum allowable amount of such compensation pursuant to Article 19, and who is entitled to Workers' Compensation temporary disability benefits, shall be permitted to utilize accrued sick leave subject to the following restrictions: Sick Leave shall be utilized in fifteen minute increments, but in no event shall an employee receive an amount, including any Workers' Compensation temporary disability compensation, in excess of such employee's regular base pay.

ARTICLE 19 DISABILITY LEAVE

19.1 Disability Leave Supplement

- Disability Leave Supplement (DLS) is the benefit provided pursuant to this Article, which, when added to Worker's Compensation Temporary Disability (WCTD) results in providing employees 85% of their regular base salary.
- 19.2 Eligibility for Disability Leave Supplement
- A full-time employee who is required to be absent from work due to a job-related injury or industrial illness and who receives WCTD payments pursuant to Division I or Division 4 of the California Labor Code is eligible for DLS, excluding ineligible causes listed in section 19.4. In the event an employee is not eligible for WCTD

payments because of the statutory waiting period, DLS shall not be paid for such a waiting period. The employee may use sick leave to cover the waiting period.

- 19.2.1 After the initial three (3)-day waiting period has been met, and the employee otherwise qualifies for DLS, the employee may utilize DLS for absences required for medical visits related to the injury after his/her return to work if he/she is unable to schedule such visits on non-work hours. DLS for such intermittent absences is subject to authorization by the Worker's Compensation Section. In no event may DLS exceed the limit specified in 19.6.
- 19.3 Eligibility for Disability Leave Supplement Linked to Temporary Disability
- If the Worker's Compensation Appeals Board of the State of California or any judicial court should determine that the employee is not entitled to Temporary Disability (WCTD) compensation, the employee shall not be entitled to Disability Leave Supplement (DLS) benefits. Under such circumstances, any DLS moneys paid to the employee by the City must be returned to the City within one year.
- 19.4 Ineligible Causes for Disability Leave
- An employee shall not be eligible for disability leave, and shall not receive DLS if the injury or illness that causes the absence results from:
 - 1)an act of gross negligence of such employee
 - 2)any work voluntarily undertaken by employee from which he has been prohibited from engaging in as determined by a City physician, prior to the date of injury.
- 19.5 Ineligibility if Offer and Decline of Modified Duty
- DLS shall not be provided if the City offers the employee employment at identical or similar salary, within the employee's medical limitations, and the employee refuses or fails to accept duty for which he or she is physically qualified.
- 19.6 Maximum Term of Disability Leave Supplement
- The employee will receive DLS benefits equal to the amount of money which, when added to the WCTD equals 85% of what the employee would have earned at the position from which he or she is disabled for one of the following time periods, whichever is shortest:
 - 1) the time the employee is medically required to be absent due to a work-related injury or illness, after the required three-day waiting period.

- 2) the period of time WCTD is payable to the employee under the Workers' Compensation provisions of Division 1 or Division 4 of the Labor Code of the State of California.
- 3) Nine (9) calendar months (274 days or 1,560 hours if not continually absent) following the date of injury.

19.6.1 Time Limit for DLS Eligibility

After 1,560 hours of DLS, the employee is entitled to no additional compensation for the injury or illness. No employee shall be eligible for DLS five (5) years after the date of the onset of the injury or illness for which he or she is claiming DLS.

19.7 Disability Leave Supplement is in Lieu of Regular Compensation

Employees who receive WCTD and DLS compensation do not receive their regular salary. DLS as described in this Article is in lieu of regular compensation.

19.8 Requirement of Evidence Proving Temporary Disability

The Director of Human Resources or designee is responsible for determining eligibility for DLS. In making this determination, the Director or designee may require the employee to provide proof of injury or illness, proof that the injury or illness will last, and proof of other relevant matters as determined by the Director or designee. The Director or designee may require the employee to submit to a medical examination by a physician selected by the City.

19.9 Termination of Disability Leave

An employee who is unable to return to full time regular duty following the expiration of any and all leave provided in this Article and the integration of Sick Leave as provided in Article 18.1.2.3, and of accrued vacation, and compensatory time off, with Workers' Compensation may be separated from City service. In making this determination, the City shall consider the employee's anticipated date of return to work and the operational impact of the extended absence.

Proposed MEF Language:

10.3.3.1Accrued sick leave may also be utilized for job-related illness or injury in accordance with the provisions of Section 10.4 Disability Leave, or if the employee is medically required to be absent from work between the date an examining physician determines the employee's condition to be "permanent and stationary" and the date the employee is so notified. Such accrued sick leave may not be utilized if the employee is otherwise entitled to temporary disability leave compensation for the above-referenced period of time. Accrued sick leave not to exceed three (3) working days may be granted

at the discretion of the Director of Human Resources or designee, following the notification referred to above. Telephone notice or a notice mailed to the employee's last known address of record shall be determined notice to the employee.

10.3.3.2Accrued sick leave not to exceed three working days may be granted in circumstances where an alleged job-related illness or injury is involved, but the employee fails to provide medical verification of such job-related illness or injury.

10.3.3.3Anything in this Article to the contrary notwithstanding, an employee who, pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.4 of this Agreement, has been receiving temporary disability leave compensation and who has received the maximum allowable amount of such compensation pursuant to Section 10.4, and who is entitled to Workers' Compensation temporary disability benefits, and has exhausted all other available paid leave, shall be permitted to utilize accrued sick leave subject to the following restrictions: Sick Leave shall be utilized in fifteen minute increments, but in no event shall an employee receive an amount, including any Workers' Compensation temporary disability compensation, in excess of such employee's regular base pay.

10.5Disability Leave

<u>10.3.1Disability Leave</u>. Disability Leave Supplement (DLS) is the benefit provided pursuant to this Article, which, when added to Worker's Compensation Temporary Disability (WCTD) results in providing employees eighty-five percent (85%) of their regular base salary.

10.3.2 Eligibility for Disability Leave Supplement. A full-time employee required to be absent from work due to a job-related injury or industrial illness who receives WCTD payments pursuant to Division I or Division 4 of the California Labor Code is eligible for DLS, excluding ineligible causes listed in Section 10.4.4. In the event an employee is not eligible for WCTD payments because of the statutory waiting period, DLS shall not be paid for such a waiting period. The employee may use sick leave to cover the waiting period.

10.3.3.1After the initial three (3)-day waiting period has been met, and the employee otherwise qualifies for DLS, the employee may utilize DLS for absences required for medical visits related to the injury after his/her return to work if he/she is unable to schedule such visits on non-work hours. DLS for such intermittent absences is subject to authorization by the Worker's Compensation Section. In no event may DLS exceed the limit specified in Section 10.4.6.

10.3.3 Eligibility for Disability Leave Supplement Linked to Temporary Disability. If the Worker's Compensation Appeals Board of the State of California or any judicial court should determine that the employee is not entitled to Temporary Disability (WCTD) compensation, the employee shall not be entitled to Disability Leave Supplement (DLS) benefits. Under such circumstances, any DLS moneys paid to the employee by the City must be returned to the City within one (1) year.

10.3.4<u>Ineligible Causes for Disability Leave</u>. An employee shall not be eligible for disability leave, and shall not receive DLS if the injury or illness that causes the absence results from an act of gross negligence of such employee; and/or any work voluntarily undertaken by employee from which he has been prohibited from engaging in as determined by a City physician, prior to the date of injury.

- 10.3.5<u>Ineligibility if Offer and Decline of Modified Duty</u>. DLS shall not be provided if the City offers the employee employment at identical or similar salary, within the employee's medical limitations, and the employee refuses or fails to accept duty for which the employee is physically qualified.
- 10.3.6 Maximum Term of Disability Leave Supplement. The employee will receive DLS benefits equal to the amount of money which, when added to the WCTD equals eighty-five percent (85%) of what the employee would have earned at the position from which the employee is disabled for one of the following time periods, whichever is shortest:
- 1. The time the employee is medically required to be absent due to a work-related injury or illness, after the required three (3)-day waiting period.
- 2. The period of time WCTD is payable to the employee under the Workers' Compensation provisions of Division 1 or Division 4 of the Labor Code of the State of California.
- 3. Nine (9) calendar months (274 days or 1,560 hours if not continually absent) following the date of injury.
- 10.3.3.1 <u>Time Limit for DLS Eligibility</u>. After 1,560 hours of DLS, the employee is entitled to no additional compensation for the injury or illness. No employee shall be eligible for DLS five (5) years after the date of the onset of the injury or illness for which the employee is claiming DLS.
- 10.3.7 <u>Disability Leave Supplement is in Lieu of Regular Compensation</u>. Employees who receive WCTD and DLS compensation do not receive their regular salary. DLS as described in this Article is in lieu of regular compensation.
- 10.3.8 Requirement of Evidence Proving Temporary Disability. The Director of Human Resources, or designee, is responsible for determining eligibility for DLS. In making this determination, the Director may require the employee to provide proof of injury or illness, proof that the injury or illness will last, and proof of other relevant matters as determined by the Director, or designee. The Director, or designee, may require the employee to submit to a medical examination by a physician selected by the City.
- 10.3.9 Termination of Disability Leave. An employee who is unable to return to full time regular duty following the expiration of any and all leave provided in this Article and the integration of Sick Leave as provided in Section 10.3.3.3, and of accrued vacation, and compensatory time off, with Workers' Compensation may be considered to have separated from City service.
- 10.3.3.1An employee who exhausts all Disability Leave shall be notified that they are subject to the above provision upon expiration of all remaining paid leave.